**National Institute of Rehabilitation training and research**

1531. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mandate given to the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research;

(b) the number of training courses conducted during the last one year; and

(c) the number of courses which provided for self-employment and technical know how and also newer markets and products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The mandate of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research is:—

(i) Training for the rehabilitation personnel;

(ii) Development of service modules research on biomedical engineering & medical procedures for Orthopaedically handicapped.

(b) The Institute conducted 6 long term and 17 short term courses last year.

(c) All the above courses provide for self-employment as well as employment in Government and private sector. The graduates and post graduates professional passing out from the institute get employment in rehabilitation production companies, District Rehabilitation Centres etc. and a few have started their own clinics and production units.

**Inclusion in Scheduled Castes Category**

†1532. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have sent a proposal to Government to include blacksmith, potter, barber and 'Kanu' caste in Scheduled Castes category;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.